

**9th Biannual Congress of the International
Society for Holter and Noninvasive
Electrocardiology**

The 9th Congress of ISHNE was held in Istanbul on September 24-27, 2000 in a nice setting with superb convention facilities by the Marmara Sea. The unique feature of this year's Congress was the joint organization with ICEP 2000 (International Congress on Cardiac Pacing and electrophysiology). This fit very well with 'bridge concept' of the Congress in a two continent city at the turn of the millenium bridging nonvasive and invasive arrhythmology. This year's Congress gathered a record number of participants, nearly 1000 scientistis, their wives, and our industry partners from 39 contries from Argentina to Japan, Sweden to Israel. The faculty was outstanding. Nearly 150 world-renowned faculty presented the superb Scientific Program which was very well appreciated by attendees. The sessions were well attended and lively discussions flooded the breaks in an informal way as well. The striking feature of the scientific program was its spectrum from basic science to noninvasive and invasive diagnostics and pharmacological and electrical treatment of arrhythmias. Forty-eight prearranged sessions and abstract sessions were arranged as parallel sessions in four rooms. Nearly 300 abstracts were presented. A series of eight sessions entitled Myocardial Repolarization from Gene to Bedside were dedicated to the late R. Campbell and a book with the same title will be produced.

We did not forget our nurse and technician colleagues, and an educational session was organized by S.Song, M.Irween and M. Gura. This session was very well attended and we received positive feed back which encourages us to continue such activities during our congress.

Several awards were distributed during the award ceremony. Traditional Senior and Junior Investigator Awards by Del Mar were handed out by Dr. Bruce Delmar himself. This year Senior Investigator Award was presented to Mrs. Cmapbell for the late R. Campbell,

one of the pioneres in noninvasive electrocardiology. The Junior Investigator Award was given to Dr. E. Locati from Italy. Moreover, for the first time, ICEP Awards were also distributed to distinguished colleagues. The Award Committee of the ICEP presented the Distinguished Scientist Award to Dr. G.Breithardt and Dr. S. Sak-sena and the Distinguished Teacher Award to Dr. A.J. Camm. There were more awards, including the Best Poster Awards that were awarded to the three best posters selected by the Poster Award Committee from the posters presented during the Congress. The first prize was shared by two colleagues.

The social program was found to be superb by the attendees. A dinner reception in the historical French embassy in the heart of the city of Istanbul took guests back to the sixteenth century. During the opening ceremony of the Congress, the lecture given by the keynote speaker, Dr. Lüderitz, was unforgattable. The music show by an opera singer and authentic Turkish songs enthralled the audience. The ceremony was followed by a reception. The Faculty Dinner started with a boat trip through Bosporus and ended in a restaurant by the Bosporus, and the faculty was offered a chance to imagine a real night in Istanbul. The Gala Dinner was a night to remember with wonderful entertainment and food.

Traditionally the officers of the ISHNE change during the biannual congress. The 9th Congress followed the tradition and hosted the election of the new officers of the ISHNE. Dr. Prakash Deedwania took over the presidency as the President-Elect. Dr. Ali Oto was elected as the President-Elect. Dr. Peter Stone was re-elected to the position of treasurer and Dr. H. Osterhues for the position of treasurer and Dr. H. Osterhues for the position of secretary.

Istanbul offered innumerable options during the day and night to attendees for their times outside the scientific sessions. Our colleagues left their hearts in Istanbul for many returns.

Sincerely
Ali Oto, M.D.